

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910954534103321
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Titolo	The physiology of truth : neuroscience and human knowledge / / Jean-Pierre Changeux ; translated by M.B. DeBevoise
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge, MA, : Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2004
ISBN	9780674029415 0674029410
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (336 p.)
Collana	Mind/Brain/Behavior Initiative
Classificazione	CC 4400
Disciplina	612.8
Soggetti	Neurosciences Brain - Physiology Knowledge, Theory of Mind-brain identity theory Science - Methodology
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 267-303) and index.
Nota di contenuto	""Contents""; ""Introduction""; ""1 Thinking Matter""; ""2 The Acquisition of Knowledge""; ""3 States of Consciousness""; ""4 Knowledge and Social Life""; ""5 From Genes to Brain""; ""6 Neuronal Epigenesis and Cultural Evolution""; ""7 Scientific Research and the Search for Truth""; ""8 The Humanity of Science""; ""Conclusion""; ""Notes""; ""Credits""; ""Acknowledgments""; ""Index""
Sommario/riassunto	"In this wide-ranging book, one of the boldest thinkers in modern neuroscience confronts an ancient philosophical problem: can we know the world as it really is? Drawing on provocative new findings about the psychophysiology of perception and judgment in both human and nonhuman primates, and also on the cultural history of science, Jean-Pierre Changeux makes a powerful case for the reality of scientific progress and argues that it forms the basis for a coherent and universal theory of human rights. On this view, belief in objective knowledge is not a mere ideological slogan or a naïve confusion; it is a characteristic feature of human cognition throughout evolution, and the scientific method its most sophisticated embodiment. Seeking to reconcile science and humanism, Changeux holds that the capacity to recognize

truths that are independent of subjective personal experience
constitutes the foundation of a human civil society."
